

Is Unity The Impossible Dream?

Featuring: Margaret Hoover



Margaret Hoover is a Republican strategist, author, commentator, and TV host whose professional and personal lives illustrate that unity may be lived as well as sought. She has been called “a fresh and brilliant young voice in the Republican party,” while her marriage with historian and Independent commentator John Avlon has been called a “lesson in overcoming the orthodoxies that divide us.”

The great-granddaughter of former President Herbert Hoover, she grew up as a self-described “Ditto Head” and honed impeccable conservative credentials as a regular commentator for Fox News. In her commentaries and a 2011 best-selling book, “American Individualism: How a New Generation of Conservatives can Save the Republican Party,” she evoked her great-grandfather’s emphasis on the values of civic responsibility and services to others and argued that the Republican Party must evolve without compromising its tried-and-true fundamental principles.

A critic of President Trump, she remains committed to the party but denounces the hyper-partisanship that characterizes so much political discussion. “When dealing with anyone I love in politics, I think of my friend [Jean Safer’s book — “I Love You but I Hate Your Politics”](#) — and I just focus on the love,” she said two years ago in an interview with the Los Angeles Blade.

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Currently a host of PBS's "Firing Line," she now is more associated with the less strident wing of the GOP. She is a staunch advocate for LGBTQ+ equality and a founder of the American Unity Fund, a non-profits that works to advance the community's rights "by making the conservative case that freedom truly means freedom for everyone." She served in George W. Bush's White House as Associate Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and as an advisor to the Department of Homeland Security and worked on the presidential campaigns of George W. Bush and Rudy Giuliani.